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INTELLIGENCE PRODUCTION COURSE No. 1

CHIEF INSTRUCTOR'S COMMENTS

1. Nine students completed Intelligence Production Course No. 1 on 1 May 1959. The course began on 9 February and continued on a full-time basis for 12 weeks. The objective of the course was to prepare the Junior Officer Trainees for assignment as intelligence officers in the DD/I area of the Agency by giving them a thorough understanding of the nature and purpose of the intelligence production effort in the DD/I area and of the problems inherent in that effort, and by giving them specific training and practice in the application of the techniques and skills required in the production of intelligence.

2. The instructional staff feels that the course objective was achieved to a satisfactory degree. We also feel, of course, that the experience gained in this first running of the course will make it possible for subsequent runnings of the course to achieve the objective to a higher degree. In the main, the course planning was sound, and as the course developed, no major changes in the sequence of substantive segments were indicated, and at the completion of the course, only minor changes in the allocation of time to substantive segments are indicated.

3. The specific recommendations of the instructional staff for general improvement of the course reflect continuous staff post-mortems of course projects and exercises, comments and suggestions from DD/I personnel, and the reactions of the students themselves.

These recommendations are:

a. That the Current Intelligence segment of the course be changed to two weeks instead of one.

b. That the Geographic Intelligence segment of the course be changed to one week instead of two.

c. That more research time be allocated early in the course to permit the students to do background study in the areas of their research problems.

d. That more brief written assignments be made and that the staff critique these assignments more directly on the basis of writing skill.

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e. That closer guidance and supervision be given in the matter of the styles and formats of the various type of DD/I written reports.

f. That all steps short of physical violence be taken to prevent DD/I Division and Branch Chiefs from delivering one-hour lectures on component mission, function, and organization--complete with boxwork.

4. The problem reflected in recommendation f, above, was anticipated, and the staff tried to avoid it by informing the DD/I Division and Branch Chiefs--both in writing and orally--that the students were thoroughly familiar with DD/I component mission, function, and organization. Invariably, however, the M, F, and O routine was followed. It is hoped that an effective remedy can be found.

5. Evaluation of all performance in the course was based on the standards applied to junior professionals in the DD/I components. The instructional staff feels that the application of these standards is justified even though it appears to penalize the students for lack of experience. Only through evaluation based on actual standards of performance can a realistic estimate of competence be made.

6. The instructional staff was most fortunate in having the excellent cooperation of all of the DD/I components with which we worked in the development and conduct of the course. We are particularly appreciative of the work of the OCR Library Division in supporting the research work of the students.

7. Major instructional work in the course was done by [REDACTED] and the chief instructor. Miss [REDACTED] contributed to the planning and development of many of the course projects and gave excellent research support throughout the course. [REDACTED] aided in the course planning, took an active part in many of the field trips, and assisted in the critiquing of the oral presentations of the course research problems.

8. In summary, the instructional staff feels that the course is basically sound in concept and content and that with the alterations recommended in paragraph 3, above, it will continue to meet the training needs of Junior Officer Trainees selected for assignment to the DD/I area of the Agency.

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